(d) whether his Ministry will come to the rescue of this most remote, backward District of the Country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Chairman and Chief Executive Councillor, Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh, had submitted a Memorandum to the then Prime Minister for the execution of the Nimoo-Basgo Hydro-Electric Project (30 Mega Watts) in Leh as a Central Sector Project. The Government of Jammu & Kashmir have conveyed their No objection for implementation of the Project by National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) in the Central Sector only in February 2000. The Ministry of Power has thereafter asked NHPC to take up Survey & Investigation of the Nimoo-Basgo H.E. Project.

(b) to (d) A copy of the detailed Project Report (DPR) of the Nimoo-Basgo H.E. Project has been received by NHPC in March, 2000, on the advice of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir. The DPR is under examination in NHPC to assess its suitability for being taken up for execution. The Ministry of Power has given its consent under the relevant provisions of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 for NHPC to establish, operate and maintain the project. The Ministry of Power has also asked NHPC to take up the Chutak Hydel Project (18 MW) in Kargil to mitigate the problems being faced by the State.

Purchase of Hindi Typewriters

†4838. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of such offices under his Ministry/Department which don't have a single Hindi typewriter so far;

(b) the reasons for not purchasing the Hindi typewriters so far; and

(c) the action taken to ensure the compliance of targets fixed for the purchase of Hindi typewriters by the Department of Official Language in its annual Hindi programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) All the offices under the Ministry of Power have Hindi Typewriters/Hindi Typewriting facilities. The Ministry is in the process of computerisation wherein provisions have been made for installation of computers with Hindi keyboards alongwith Hindi Software Pacakges.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

It is the endeavour of the Ministry to meet the target for Hindi Typewriters etc. in phases.

Training in Hindi Typing and Hindi Stenography

†4839. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of typists and stenographers under his Ministry/ Department and subordinate offices who have not yet taken training in Hindi typing and Hindi stenography;

(b) the reasons for not giving them such training so far; and

(c) by when it is planned to give them such training?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) 71 Lower Division Clerks and 43 Stenographers Grade-D working in the Ministry of Power, its Attached and Subordinate Offices have not yet taken training in Hindi Typing and Hindi Stenography, as the case may be.

(b) and (c) Due to shortage of staff and exigencies of work, it has not been possible to impart training to all the officials. Imparting training in Hindi Typing and Hindi Stenography is a continuous process and it is the endeavour of the Ministry to sponsor maximum number of officials during each session of training under the Hindi Teaching Scheme of the Department of Official Language.

Benefit of Information Technology to rural areas

†4840. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a new scheme to extend the benefit of revolution in the field of Information Technology to the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the outlines of the scheme; and

(c) by when the rural areas are proposed to be benefited through its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDARLAL PATWA): (a) to (c) An ambitious programme has been drawn to establish

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.